

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of CHC Board of Directors, April 22, 2008

CALL TO ORDER 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: All Programs except (number in parentheses indicate total absences including this evening): CT Wolves (1); ECHO (1); Enfield (1); Grn. Skating Club (1); Hamden (1); Northeastern (1); Ridgefield (1); Salisbury* (1); Simsbury* (1); South Windsor (1); Southern (1); Stamford (1); Wallingford (1). The attendance log, reflecting tonight's attendance, is made as an attachment to the minutes.

**Note: Salisbury and Simsbury had lost their status of Good Standing in the prior season, and that condition carries over into this current CHC Year (2008-2009). Tonight's Annual Meeting is the start of a new CHC Year.*

Board Officers Present: President, Mike Meakem; Vice President, Jason Pniewski; Secretary: Glenn Van Moffaert.

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: Eligibility Chairperson and District-I Commissioner, Kathy Ludwig; District-II Commissioner, Jason Pniewski; District-IV Commissioner, Glenn Van Moffaert; Squirt Director, Erik Sundquist; Women's & Girls' Hockey: Jacqueline DiNuccio; Joe Dymarczyk and Carolyn Holt.

USA Hockey Appointees (non-voting) present: none

USA Hockey Officials (non-voting) present: NE District Director, Jim Lanza.

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

The March minutes were accepted.

REPORTS

President (Mike Meakem)

There is a hockey summer camp (June) for hearing impaired persons; those who are interested may contact Mike directly for additional details.

The CHC is looking for a second State Registrar to assist Patty. This is an appointed volunteer position, and has many nice perquisites, notably that the State Registrar(s) attend the USAH Annual Congress in June....so hurry and get the word out!

A meeting to discuss the Midget full-season program is slated for 7pm tomorrow (4/23) at the Hawthorne Inn.

In coordination with Terra Lingua program, two German hockey player exchange students (birth year 1991-1992) are looking for host families for the academic year. If you are interested, please contact Mike Meakem.

A new marketing plan for the Grow-the-Game initiative is proceeding under Ken Dixon's guidance. Some thoughts to encourage participation, maintain and build momentum with G-t-G is the issuance of monthly newsletters. Tracking statistics show that this approach is successful.

NEW CONTACTS UPDATES: If your program is changing CHC Representative or President, then please send Mike or Glenn the information on the change. This will be updated through the LgAth websites.

New mischief...rumblings and rumors that some programs/individuals are dissatisfied with the direction that the CHC is headed, despite the fact that the Board Officers have made a concerted effort to have transparency with respect to all aspects of the organization, especially in the areas of finances and operations. Mike made clear that his actions are a direct result of the votes and wishes of CHC-Board membership at large, and not based on a personal agenda or vendetta. It should be apparent to all that in organizations as large and diverse as CHC, everyone may not be pleased with certain votes. So please, air your gripes and grievances at these meetings rather than amuse yourself with back-door politics.

Secretary (Glenn Van Moffaert)

BY-LAWS and RULES

Glenn mentioned that no amendments to the By-Laws were received for consideration. Therefore, the By-Laws will remain unchanged for the 2008-2009 season. The Rules & Policies will be redrafted in light of the substantial changes that were made in the 2007-2008 season. Glenn will work with the Tournament Committee and Eligibility Committee to publish the revised rules.

Treasurer (Mike Federico)

In Mr. Federico's absence, Mike Meakem distributed a handout detailing the current balance sheet and Profit & Loss statement. The CHC fiscal year ends in June, at which time an annual report will be prepared.

Volunteers to comprise the Finance Review Committee are being sought. If you are interested, please send a note to Mike Meakem. This Finance Committee would be charged, among other things, with the duties of the Audit Committee and Fundraising Committee as described in the Bylaws. It is felt that an audit itself is not a sufficient means to ensure the financial integrity of the CHC. Similarly, it is suggested that the Finance Review Committee may also carry out other closely related duties such as fundraising and investment.

Grow the Game: Ken Dixon spoke to the condition of the declining number of youth players in hockey, and pointed out some local issues such as that Patty cannot properly account for a large number of "unclaimed" players (players who were registered but not rostered). It is thought that these are principally first-year players in Learn-To-Skate programs, but their apparent "absence" has an effect in CHC standing within USAH.

Ken also stated that while there has been much progress and effort made in the "inaugural" season for G-t-G, such as the introduction of cross-ice, better progress can be made. For instance, although the CHC has authorized a subsidy for cross-ice dividers, very few programs (5) have ordered the devices. It is unclear why this is the case. Further, too few programs (11) have participated in the online survey. (<http://www.chchockey.org/Survey/Default.asp?id=2477&snid=69887500&org=chchockey.org>) Please participate, as this feedback is necessary to help determine the next best steps on this important initiative. Other marketing initiatives, such as the newsletter, are being formulated to promote the interests of CHC in particular and the sport of hockey in general.

Eligibility Committee (Kathy Ludwig)

A NEW RELEASE FORM is available; please use it. Since some programs have completed their tryouts, and Releases are being issued. If your Program has its teams established for the upcoming season, do not delay in securing Releases, or sending your roster lists to Kathy.

The District Commissioners report that all is quiet.

Registrar (Patty Garcia)

In Patty's absence, Mike Meakem reported that on May 15 USAH Coaching Registration (online) will be active for the 2008-2009 season. Remember, that unless you register online, there will be a administrative fee imposed by CHC; this fee is 3X the amount of the online registration fees.

Girls (Joe Dymarczyk/Jacqueline DiNuccio/ Carolyn Holt)

Tryouts for girls born in 1996 & 1997 will be held March 17th at the Yale rink. A team of 15 skaters and 2 goalies will be selected from this tryout. The team will participate in a round robin event to be held in Connecticut, April 11-13, against teams from Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. Please see the website for further details.

Coaching Director (Mike Powers)

In Mike Powers' absence, Mike Meakem reported that Mr. Powers will be sending e-mails regarding the Coaching Education Program. Please also visit the website for other information.
(<http://leagueathletics.com/Page.asp?n=23529&snid=69887500&org=chchockey.org>)

Referee in Chief (Randy Zaritsky)

In Randy's absence, Mike Meakem reported that Jim Lanza, Randy and he met and will continue the dialog with the Referees' associations regarding governance/game reporting and other issues. At this time the several referee associations are a loosely organized group. Some share a software platform for maintaining referee assignments; CHC is looking to encourage that each referee group use a common platform.

Tournaments (Brian Oatway)

The Tournament Committee is convening to recap the past season and begin to ascertain what improvements can be made for next season. Your thoughts are welcomed and appreciated. Please send them to Brian as soon as practicable.

Tier-1 Tryouts are over! In a strange twist, a T2 player, who had decided to join the Lasers, was looking for CHC to compel a member Program to provide relief from their commitment letter obligation citing the new rule regarding tryout coordination between T1 and the other Tiered programs. The player was disappointed to learn that since the Lasers are not a part of CHC, the T2 Program with whom they signed a commitment is not obligated to make any concessions.

NE District (Jim Lanza)

Jim reported that the USAH National Congress and NE-District meetings will be held in June.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTIONS

The Nomination Committee received no other nominations for the positions of President or Treasurer. Glenn asked whether there were any nominations from the floor for either position, and none were raised. A motion (seconded) was made to set aside the rules regarding voting by ballot since the candidates for the positions of President and Treasurer were running unopposed; the vote to set aside the rule passed without objection by voice vote.

Mike Meakem was nominated for the position of President; he was elected by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Meakem's second term begins immediately and is for two (2) years.

Mike Federico was nominated for the position of Treasurer; he was elected by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Federico's first term begins immediately, and is for two (2) years.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn (seconded) passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEXT MEETING:

May 27, 2008
7:30pm
Italian American Club
35 Chase Lane, West Haven.

/Attachment #1 to April 2008 minutes
Attendance Log

Program	Total Absences	Annual Meeting April 2008	May	June	August Presidents' Meeting
Avon	0				
Central	0				
CT Clippers	0				
CT Northern Lights	0				
CT Polar Bears	0				
CT Wolves	1	X			
Darien	0				
East Haven	0				
ECHO	1	X			
Enfield	1	X			
Gr. Bridgeport	0				
Gr. New Haven	0				
Greenwich Blues	0				
Greenwich Skate	1	X			
Griffin	0				
Hamden	1	X			
Kent	0				
Middlesex	0				
Mid-Fairfield	0				
New Canaan	0				
Northeastern	1	X			
Northwestern	0				
Pawling	0				
Ridgefield	1	X			
Salisbury (8)	1	X			
Simsbury (4)	1	X			
South Windsor	0				
Southeastern	0				
Southern	1	X			
Stamford	1	X			
Wallingford	1	X			
Watertown	0				
West Hartford	0				
West Haven	0				
Western	0				
Wonderland Wizards	0				
Yale	0				

Salisbury and Simsbury: Loss of Good Standing is carried over from last CHC Year; the number in parentheses is the number of absences from the prior CHC Year.